

House Resolution 508

By: Representatives Horner of the 3rd, Momtahan of the 17th, Tarvin of the 2nd, Cameron of the 1st, Chastain of the 7th, and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Urging the Attorney General of Georgia to bring forward a claim before the Supreme Court
2 of the United States regarding the boundary dispute between the State of Georgia and the
3 State of Tennessee; and for other purposes.

4 WHEREAS, the United States Congress voted to make Tennessee a state in 1796,
5 designating the 35th parallel north as Tennessee's southern border and the boundary between
6 the states of Georgia and Tennessee; and

7 WHEREAS, Georgia Code Section 50-2-3 codified the 35th parallel north as the State of
8 Georgia's northern border; and

9 WHEREAS, although there have been 10 different attempts by the State of Georgia to
10 resolve the issue since 1887, our state continues to be unconstitutionally occupied by the
11 State of Tennessee; and

12 WHEREAS, Article III, Section 2, Clause 1 of the Constitution outlines the following
13 regarding the authority of the Supreme Court of the United States in resolving boundary
14 disputes between states: "The judicial Power shall extend to all Cases, in Law and Equity,
15 arising under this Constitution, the Laws of the United States, and Treaties made, or which

16 shall be made, under their Authority;—to all Cases affecting Ambassadors, other public
17 Ministers and Consuls;—to all Cases of admiralty and maritime Jurisdiction; to
18 Controversies to which the United States shall be a Party;—to Controversies between two
19 or more States; between a State and Citizens of another State, between Citizens of different
20 States,—between Citizens of the same State claiming Lands under Grants of different States,
21 and between a State, or the Citizens thereof, and foreign States, Citizens or Subjects"; and

22 WHEREAS, the Georgia State Senate passed House Resolution 4 in 2013, which authorized
23 the Attorney General of Georgia to bring forward a claim before the Supreme Court of the
24 United States if a settlement was not reached; and

25 WHEREAS, despite the passing of House Resolution 4, a settlement has still not been
26 reached regarding the boundary dispute.

27 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
28 the members of this body urge the Attorney General of Georgia to bring forward a claim
29 before the Supreme Court of the United States in accordance with House Resolution 4 to
30 finally end the boundary dispute between our state and the State of Tennessee.

31 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
32 and directed to make appropriate copies of this resolution available for distribution to the
33 public and the press.